



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AVA, MO., MAN INDICTED FOR OBSTRUCTING THE IRS

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced today that an Ava, Mo., man was indicted by a federal grand jury for obstructing the Internal Revenue Service in the collection of federal taxes owed to the government and for structuring transactions in currency so that each transaction involved \$10,000 or less.

Roy Eugene Waters, 62, of Ava, Mo., was charged in an indictment returned under seal by a federal grand jury meeting in Kansas City, Mo., on August 27, 2002. That indictment was unsealed and made public upon **Waters'** arrest and initial appearance in federal court in Springfield today.

Count One of the federal indictment alleges that **Waters**, corruptly and by threats of force, obstructed and impeded the due administration of the internal revenue laws of the United States, including the determination, assessment and collection of **Waters'** federal income tax liabilities for 1991, 1992 and 1993. The indictment alleges that Waters attempted to accomplish this by:

- * threatening to commit suicide;
- * threatening to defend his property with guns against seizure by the Internal Revenue Service;
- * filing and recording Form M-UCC-1 in Douglas County on July 17, 1995, which purports to perfect a security interest held by Roena Bebout, one of his adult children, in real property owned by **Waters** that was never granted, or granted for inadequate consideration;
- * filing several amendments in his bankruptcy case on September 10, 1996, that falsely show Roena Bebout as a secured creditor with a total claim of \$357,000;
- * filing a series of frivolous lawsuits against the Internal Revenue Service on October 21, 1996; December 10, 1996; January 6, 1997; and May 13, 1997;

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- * filing Notices of Lis Pendens in Douglas County on January 6, February 11, and May 14, 1997;
- * placing notices in local newspapers in close proximity to Internal Revenue Service notices of sealed bid sales of his property, claiming that intruders may be prosecuted, or the sale was unlawful;
- * mailing numerous documents to the Internal Revenue Service that contained frivolous demands;
- * structuring currency transactions with domestic financial institutions.

Counts Two through Nine of the federal indictment allege that **Waters** engaged in structuring, assisted in structuring or attempting to structure or assist in structuring, a series of currency transactions for the purpose of evading the federal reporting requirement. Graves explained that federal law requires financial institutions to report any currency transactions in excess of \$10,000. The federal indictment lists 35 financial transactions from June 23, 1998 through October 11, 2000 that were allegedly made by **Waters** for the purpose of evading the federal reporting requirement while committing the offense charged in Count One of the indictment.

Graves cautioned that the charges contained in the indictment are simply accusations, and not evidence of guilt. Evidence supporting the charges must be presented to a federal trial jury, whose duty is to determine guilt or innocence.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Douglas C. Bunch. It was investigated by the Internal Revenue Service – Criminal Investigation.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at

www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow